

**INSTITUTE OF WORLD
AGRICULTURAL MARKETS**

MEDIA DIGEST

15.05 – 21.05.2023



THREE MAIN TOPICS

- **RAEX: Timiryazevka Is the Best Agricultural University in Russia**
- **Russia Accredited First Body for Halal Products Certification**
- **Brazil Confirms First ever Avian Flu Cases in Wild Birds**



EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 16.05.2023

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Digital Farming School Will Appear in Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire is going to open a digital farming school in 2024 at Institut National Polytechnique Félix Houphouët-Boigny. The project is aimed at introducing technologies into the agricultural sector and boosting agricultural production. The emergence of the school resulted from a partnership between Côte d'Ivoire and the Moroccan company OCP Africa, which specializes in the processing and production of phosphates.

[AITN](#)

EDUCATION / 15.05.2023

SSAU Hosted Students of the 'World Agricultural Markets' Program

From May 14 to May 19, Stavropol State Agrarian University (SSAU) hosted a practical module for 1st year students of the "World Agricultural Markets" program. They got acquainted with the leading agro-industrial enterprises of Stavropol. The module ended up with the presentation of student projects aimed at agro-industrial complex development. The students' cases were evaluated by representatives of the university's scientific community and the Stavropol Ministry of Agriculture. [SSAU](#)

RAEX: Timiryazevka Is the Best Agricultural University in Russia

The rating agency RAEX has published rankings of Russian universities. For the first time, the new issue included the subject "Agriculture". According to this ranking, Russian State Agrarian University — Moscow Agricultural Academy named after K.A. Timiryazev (Timiryazevka) is the best agricultural university in Russia. The second place is taken by Kuban State Agrarian University named after I.T. Trubilin, the third — by Stavropol State Agrarian University. In total, 20 Russian universities are represented in the ranking. [RAEX](#)



 SCIENCE



SCIENCE / 15.05.2023

Russian Scientists Developed a Vaccine against African Swine Fever

Russia has developed a candidate vaccine strain that protects against the African swine fever virus (ASF), which is considered one of the most dangerous diseases in animal husbandry. This was reported by the Izvestia newspaper with reference to the statement of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. The Ministry added that in 2022, in order to combine the competencies of various research teams when creating a vaccine, a consortium agreement was concluded between the relevant scientific institutions of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Rosselkhoznadzor. [Izvestia](#)

SCIENCE / 15.05.2023

Russian Scientists Grew Sterlet Meat in a Test Tube

Researchers from Kazan Federal University (KFU) have developed a technology for creating artificial sterlet meat. "For the first time, we have developed a technique allowing us to obtain muscle cells for growing artificial fish meat," says Elena Zakirova, head of the Regenerative Veterinary Research Laboratory. The technology has already received a patent. Artificial sterlet meat, according to KFU scientists, will not differ from ordinary fish in terms of taste and nutritional characteristics. [Science](#)

SCIENCE / 15.05.2023

Research Confirms Negative Effects of Power Lines on Bees

A new study published by Chilean biologists has proven that the electromagnetic fields emitted by power lines have negative effects on bees. It turned out that as insects approach high-voltage lines, they become aggressive and go astray. Moreover, today, the sources of electromagnetic fields are not only power lines, but also cellular stations and ordinary smartphones. So, in reality, insects are often exposed to a whole set of electromagnetic fields at the same time. [Naked Science](#)



SCIENCE / 17.05.2023

Australian Genetic Engineers Develop Fungus-Resistant Banana

Scientists from the Queensland University of Technology (Australia) are developing a genetically modified Cavendish banana. The banana, known as QCAV-4, has been genetically modified to resist a fungus known as Panama disease tropical race 4 (TR4), which is threatening the multibillion-dollar Cavendish industry globally. If approved, the banana would become Australia's first GM fruit to be approved for cultivation and consumption, as well as the first GM banana to be approved worldwide. [RTraveler](#)



INNOVATION

INNOVATION / 15.05.2023

Portable Chambers to Measure Sheep Methane Introduced on UK Farm

Farms in the UK have begun using portable chambers developed by researchers in New Zealand. The trailer-mounted chambers can predict methane emissions in individual sheep from a variety of systems, including at pasture, as well as in multiple locations. They collect air samples and then analyze methane concentration, showing which genetics, feed types and systems generate the highest emission levels. [Farming UK](#)

INNOVATION / 16.05.2023

American Scientists Developed a Robotic Hand to Pick Blackberries

Researchers in Arkansas and Georgia have shown that delicate fresh-market blackberries typically picked by human hands to maintain quality, can now be picked by robots, too. The researchers compared the quality of the blackberries with and without the force-sensing apparatus, and the results showed that the finger sleeves did not impact berry quality. The research also showed that only three appendages were necessary, instead of four, to harvest a blackberry. [University of Arkansas](#)



INNOVATION / 16.05.2023

A Sensor for Detecting Insect Pests Was Created in Russia

Scientists from the Perm Federal Research Center of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences have developed a photonic sensor for analyzing the sounds emitted by plants and insects. According to the authors of the development, it can be used to monitor the condition of plants and their probable infection with insect pests within a radius of one kilometer. In the next two years, scientists are going to develop a system for field studies and test photonic sensors in real conditions. [GlavAgronom](#)

INNOVATION / 21.05.2023

A Robot Will Monitor Fruits in Orchards

National University of Science and Technology MISiS specialists, together with colleagues from Tambov State Technical University, the China University of Mining and Technology and the Higher School of Economics, have developed a wheeled robotic platform called botANNIC. It autonomously monitors the condition of fruits in orchards, identifies diseased or damaged fruits, and forms a map of horticultural diseases. As tests have shown, the accuracy of the device exceeds 80%. [Izvestia](#)



 **WORLD MARKET**



WORLD MARKET / 15.05.2023

Brazil Confirms First ever Avian Flu Cases in Wild Birds

Brazil, the world's top chicken exporter, has for the first time confirmed Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza cases but only in wild birds, the Agriculture Ministry said. Two cases were detected in wild birds and should not trigger a ban on imports of Brazilian poultry products as per guidelines from the World Organization for Animal Health, according to the Brazilian government. [Reuters](#)

WORLD MARKET / 16.05.2023

Bord Bia Launches Campaigns to Grow Meat Exports to China

Bord Bia has announced the launch of a series of campaigns promoting Irish meat, in conjunction with the European Union (EU), in China this week. The announcement coincides with the Irish trade mission to China led by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, which is taking place this week. A total of 8 million euro (8.69 million dollars) will be invested in the promotional campaigns. According to Bord Bia, the EU campaign investment in China is expected to result in growth in Irish beef and lamb exports to the Chinese market. [Agriland](#)

WORLD MARKET / 16.05.2023

Russia Accredited First Body for Halal Products Certification

The certification body "Roskachestvo-Halal", subordinate to Roskachestvo, became the first domestic halal certification body, which passed the accreditation procedure, Head of Roskachevo Maksim Protasov told during KazanForum-2023. According to him, applications to certify products according to halal standards have already been received by the subordinate body of Roskachestvo from the largest confectionery factories and enterprises of fat and oil industry. About 100 applications for certification of various food products are expected by the end of 2023. [TASS](#)

WORLD MARKET / 16.05.2023

UK Drops EU Wine Production Rules

The UK government announced plans to scrap European Union regulations on wine production following Brexit, allowing makers to pick from a wider range of vines and create new blends. Other measures include scrapping a requirement that certain sparkling wines must have foil caps and "mushroom stoppers," the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said in a statement. Producers will also be allowed to sell piquette, a beverage produced by fermenting the leftover skins, seeds, and stems of grapes. The changes would offer a 180 million pounds (224 million dollars) boost to Britain's wine industry, the statement said, without giving details.

[Bloomberg](#)



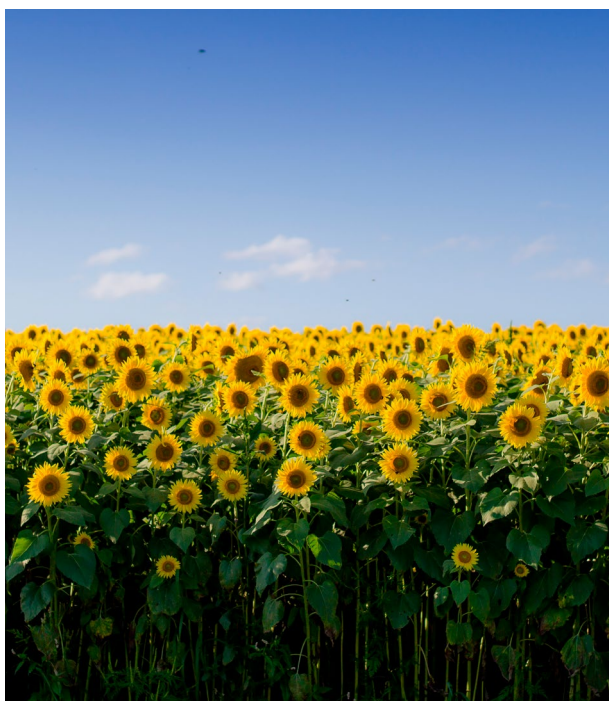


ANALYTICS / 16.05.2023

Russia Will Retain Leadership in Sunflower Production

Russia will remain the world's largest sunflower producer this year, according to a forecast from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). The agency estimates the gross harvest of sunflowers may reach 16.5 million tonnes (excluding Crimea) against 16.25 million tonnes last year. However, a reduction in concessional lending for the purchase of seeds may have a negative impact on agricultural season results, experts say.

[Rossiyskaya Gazeta](#)



ANALYTICS / 16.05.2023

EU Agri-Food Exports Hit 18 Billion Euro in January

The latest agri-food trade report published by the European Commission shows that overall exports grew to 18 billion euro (19.48 billion dollars). The report highlights that the UK remained by far the first destination for a majority of EU agri-food exports, representing 22% of the total. The US was second, with 11% and China remained in third place with 7%. The EU agri-food trade report also outlined that Europe imported 13.8 billion euro (14.93 billion dollars) worth of agri-goods in January, with Brazil one of the most important sources of these imports — accounting for 10% of the total. [Agriland](#)